

# ECCC



## *El Cerrito Community Newsletter*

*Volume Six: Number 2*

*January 2011*



**To All the Residents of El Cerrito & Surrounding Neighborhoods**

**Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 ECCC Meeting  
Water Purification Demonstration Project**

Ever wondered about the City's sewer to tap drinking water? Now is your opportunity to learn all about it!

The City of San Diego's Water Purification Demonstration Project is underway to examine the use of advanced water purification technology on high quality recycled wastewater. The Demonstration Project will determine the feasibility of a full-scale Reservoir Augmentation project, which would diversify San Diego's water supply, reduce its dependence on imported water and provide a safe source of drinking water for residents. Further information is available on their website: [www.purewatersd.org](http://www.purewatersd.org). Here you can learn more the program. The project's public education and outreach program is offering **free tours of the Advanced Water Purification Facility following its completion in 2011. For more information, please call (619) 533-7572 or email [purewatersd@sandiego.gov](mailto:purewatersd@sandiego.gov).**

We will be having an informative presentation by Jeff Pasek, Watershed Manager, City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department. Jeffery is the Watershed Manager for the Public Utilities Department. He oversees the management of water and other natural resources on 42,000 acres of land owned by the department around the City's source water reservoirs. He also guides the department's interaction with other governmental entities and private land owners across 946 square miles of land that drain to the reservoirs.

Jeffery's work with San Diego's water system spans more than thirty years. He was the Senior Biologist in the City's Water Quality Laboratory and has worked as a reservoir biologist, Lake Ranger, and resident reservoir keeper. Jeffery is a member of the American Water Works Association, North American Lake Management Society, and the American Water Resources Association. He has served on the Board of Directors and President of the California Lake Management Society. Jeffery is a native San Diegan and is a lifelong resident of the San Diego area. He is a graduate of San Diego State University where he studied geology and aquatic biology.

**Last Month's ECCC's Meeting  
Holiday Pot-Luck & Get-Together**



**Our Chairman, Carl Luster & His Wife Sheila (standing).  
In the background some of the wonderful raffle items**

We believe everyone attending the ECCC's Holiday Pot-Luck Party & Get-Together had a really enjoyable evening. There was great food. Vice-Chair, Jan Riley fixed a turkey (donated by Laura Riebau) with all the trimmings, and there were lots of compliments for the dressing. This might be the first pot-luck in history with fewer desserts than main dishes (just 2 desserts).

Community Relations Officer, Luis Roman, and Cynthia Harris, from the 7th Council District office, were both there and gave short reports. Laura Riebau also gave a short report for the Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee and discussed the Mid-City Rapid Transit Super Bus System proposed for El Cajon Boulevard and the problems these very large buses will cause with a dedicated lane on our narrow and winding part of the Boulevard

We would like to give special acknowledgement to three residents: A.J. DeLucchi on Austin for the two gifts she donated.

Terri & BJ Nystrom for the wonderful stainless steel colander full of Italian goodies to make the pasta dish of your choice.

Ms. Susan Rosenberg, who lives on Soria, made the table centerpieces with the cute dogs and cats intertwined in her design. Susan works for the PETCO Foundation.

The PETCO Foundation donated the two dog and cat baskets, worth about \$150.00 each. Please visit our local PETCO store as the PETCO Foundation serves as a voice for companion animals across the country since 1999. Each year, they help animal-welfare organizations find lifelong, loving homes for millions of orphaned pets, as well as fund spay and neuter efforts, animal assisted therapy programs and humane education. The Foundation donates about \$8 million a year to assist companion animals across the country. The organization is funded through donations raised during seasonal fundraisers conducted in PETCO's 1,000 plus stores in all 50 United States, as well as from PETCO associates, vendors and corporate contributions. The majority of the funds raised remain in the community in which they were raised, but the PETCO Foundation is also involved in many national animal welfare efforts. The PETCO Foundation's mission is to raise the quality of life for pets and people who love and need them.

Our CRO Luis Roman won a wreath made by Jan in the raffle and said he was going to hang it in his office. Cynthia won one of two pet baskets donated by Susan Rosenberg. Susan won an Italian Feast basket donated by B.J. and Teri Nystrom. It seems like everyone went home with at least one prize.

We, as usual, would like to say a big "thank you" to all that attended. The ECCC took in \$122.00 from the raffles, \$51.00 in Newsletter donations, and \$10.00 in donations for the church. Thanks again to everyone for their participation and generosity.

### **El Cerrito Community Clean-up & Recycling Event - February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

We received an e-mail this week from Cynthia R. Harris, our Council Representative & Policy Advisor for Council Member Marti Emerald's office that the Environmental Services Department has confirmed that the next **El Cerrito community curb-side clean up will be on February 23<sup>rd</sup> (everything out on the curb by 8am). Streets included in the cleanup are: Baylor, Austin, Atlanta, Augustana Pl, Adelphi Pl, and Collier Ave from Baylor to 54th St. Please mark your calendars and get your stuff out the night before. Our last clean up event was very successful.**

### **Mann Middle School/Crawford High School Design Task Force Meeting #1 Thursday, January 20, 2011 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

**Mann Middle School Library, 4345 54th St.  
By Carl Luster**

Parents, neighbors, school staff, students and community leaders are invited to attend the first Design Task Force

meeting to discuss the **Crawford High and Mann Middle School whole-site modernization project and Crawford stadium/athletic field improvements.** For information about the Proposition S Bond Program, including an events calendar, visit the School District Prop S website at <http://www.sandi.net/204510720114510183/site/default.asp>.

The primary function of the Design Task Force is to provide input and feedback to the design team during the design process for the new and expanded school site facilities. The process includes three to four meetings and takes approximately six weeks. This series of meetings follows three Site Master Planning meetings in November and December. **To view the design options developed in the Site planning process, follow the "School Facilities Project Map" link from the Prop S web page.**

The recommended site plan option moves the football field south of Trojan Avenue, where the tennis courts and baseball field are now. This option moves the baseball field to the location north of Trojan Avenue, between 56th and 58th Streets, where the football field is now. All of the options include the possibility of installing lights at the football field.

### **Update on ECCC's El Cajon Boulevard Banner**

Our El Cerrito Banner, that **Con Tam** so generously paid for, on the southeast corner of 60<sup>th</sup> and El Cajon Boulevard, was the only one that was blown away by the storms we had before Christmas.

The next round of banners will be going up this week and Jennifer Finnegan, the Executive Direction of the College Area Economic Development Corporation has very kindly requested another one for us and will leave it up for TWO MONTHS even though we only had a couple of weeks left on the old one. Thank you so much CAEDC.

### **Don't Forget About the ECCC Blog**

Another way to find out what is going on in the ECCC community, is to visit the ECC Blog site at:

<http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/>

You can also make a donation to the ECCC newsletter via the Blog, utilizing PayPal.

### **El Cerrito Neighborhood Patrol**

**By Patti Saraniero**

Just a reminder of the importance of turning on your porch light, especially now when it gets dark so early. Most of our streets do not have a street light on the block!

**Turn On Your Front Porch Light. Many car prowls & break-ins occur after dusk, so get those lights on. The cost of a porch light being on all night, every night, is very little compared with the cost of a break-in.**

Make sure there are no dark areas around the house, garage, or yard in which a person could hide. Street lights are generally inadequate for illuminating your property. Check lights regularly and replace burnt out

bulbs. Trim bushes to less than 3 feet to eliminate possible hiding places, especially near windows and sidewalks. Trim tree canopies to at least 8 feet to allow visibility into your property. Replace solid walls in front yards with open fencing to eliminate hiding places and make climbing more difficult. Install a wide-angle peephole in your front door so you can look out without being seen yourself.

Let's all put our community spirit on show by turning on the porch light – try it for a month! Turning your porch light on will not only help keep your property safe, but if **everyone** on your block does it, you and your neighbors will have a lighted street instead of one that is dark and dangerous – a haven for the criminal!

### Newsletter Donations

The ECCC received one donation last month of \$25 from A.J. DeLucchi on Austin Drive – thank you so very much for your generosity. ***We realize that at this time of year money is "tight", but anything you can donate would be greatly appreciated. You can also donate using our PayPal link on the ECCC Blog at: <http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/>***

### Look for Door Hanger Coupons in Next Month's Newsletter

The ECCC's Board of Directors was asked by the College Area Economic Development Corporation (the BID) if we would insert a door hanger coupon in next month's newsletter called "College Area Door Deals". With the extremely difficult economic downturn, the ECCC's Board of Directors believes that the community should do all it can to support local businesses. These coupons will give a little back to El Cerrito by saving you money at local merchants.

### REBUILDING TOGETHER SAN DIEGO'S HOME RENOVATION (RTSD) PROGRAM NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

Rebuilding Together San Diego (RTSD) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. RTSD is accepting applications for their home renovation program for 2011. RTSD focus is on home repairs that provide for a healthy and safe living environment and ADA accessibility for those who are physically and financially unable to make the repairs themselves. ***In addition to this, RTSD is launching a Roof Repair/Replacement Program as of January 2, 2011.*** Only a limited amount of homes will be accepted, however getting the application in begins the process, but does not guarantee acceptance. All services are performed at no charge to qualifying and accepted applicants. RTSD work is done through the support and assistance of a volunteer workforce, corporate sponsorships and in-kind donations. Some say RTSD is like a mini-version of ABC's Extreme Home Makeover.

To apply for home repair or roof repair/replacement assistance, sponsor a project or volunteer please visit the RTSD website ***at [www.RebuildingTogetherSD.org](http://www.RebuildingTogetherSD.org)***, E-mail ***[rtsd@rebuildingtogethersd.org](mailto:rtsd@rebuildingtogethersd.org)*** or call ***619-231-7873*** for more information. Rebuilding Together San Diego revitalizes our community...One Home at a Time.

### GET INVOLVED: ATTEND THE ECCC MEETINGS

***Get informed and ask questions!***

### Predatory Towing

**Distributed by: Kristin Beattie, Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Prosecutor and SDPD vice Liaison, San Diego City Attorney's Office**

- 1. One Hour Grace Period (VC22658(I)(1)(D))**  
Cars parked on private property held open to the public for no fee parking cannot be towed without a good faith inquiry to determine that the car has been parked longer than one hour.
- 2. Must Have Private Property Authorization (VC22658(i)(1)(b)).**  
Tow company must have all of the below in writing to authorize a tow:
  - Make, model, vehicle ID & license plate number of car to be towed
  - Name & signature of person requesting the tow (must be property owner or agent)
  - Grounds for removal
  - Time car first observed and time of authorization of towCar owner must receive this written authorization & a notice containing a phone number to contact law enforcement if owner believes he has been wrongfully towed before tow company accepts payment (VC22658(I)(1)(c)(iii))
- 3. Stopped in The Nick of Time (VC22658(g)(1)(b))**  
The owner of a car being towed from a private property is entitled to have his car immediately released upon request without payment if the car is still on private property (even if it is in transit)
- 4. No Referral Fees For Calling in a Tow (VC12110)**  
A spotter who calls in to have a car towed cannot receive any compensation (kick-back) from the towing company
- 5. No "CASH ONLY" Payment (VC12110)**  
There must be conspicuous notice stating that the tow company accepts credit cards as well as cash

### Potholes

Potholes - no one likes them. They seem to pop up by magic almost overnight. In reality potholes are created in a number of ways. The most common way is when water seeps into cracks in the surface of the road and, combined with the vibration of the tires over the cracks, causes the asphalt to fail.





That is why there are more potholes after it rains. Potholes are also created when the roadway is stressed by trucks and buses, which can cause a movement of the subsurface. Once there is a weak spot, every car that travels over it makes the problem worse, and eventually a section of the material will fail, causing a pothole.

Street Division repairs over 30,000 potholes per year using everything from a hot patch truck to bagged asphalt and shovels. Street Division's goal is to fix all potholes reported as soon as possible. Priority is given to potholes that may affect drivers; the rest are on a first come, first served basis. Every so often, and especially after a long rainy season, Street Division crews will work on a "Pothole Saturday". This is a day where all crews work only on filling potholes. Crews are given a section of the City and work all day finding and filling potholes in that area. We know that we cannot find all the potholes in the City, so we rely on the public to report potholes when they see them. **To report a pothole call (619) 527-7500 or use our online Service Request system.**

### **Rolando Street Fair Vendor Information 2011**

The full application is available via download on the home page of the College Area Business District website. Visit [www.collegeareabid.com](http://www.collegeareabid.com) to download the full version.

**Location:** 4800 block of Rolando Blvd (near El Cajon Blvd), San Diego, CA 92115

**Date/Time:** Sunday, March 21, 2011. Hours: 10am-6pm (See full application for set-up and tear-down times)

**Space Sizes:** Non-food vendor space is 10'x10'; food vendor space is 10'x15'. You may purchase two booths to double your space



## **NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

**Thursday, January 20, 2011**

**7:00pm to 8:30pm**

**Blessed Sacrament Church - Parish Hall**

**El Cajon Boulevard at El Cerrito Drive**

**(Enter the Parish Hall on the West-56<sup>th</sup> St. -side of the church)**

**Guest Speaker Topic: Water Purification Demonstration Project  
Learn about Water Recycling in San Diego**

### **PLEASE HELP US KEEP PRINTING THE NEWSLETTER THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS**

**I/we donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the printing of the  
El Cerrito Community Council Newsletter.**

**Name(s) or  
Company Name (if corporate  
sponsor)\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_**

**Do\_\_\_\_\_ Do Not\_\_\_\_\_ print our name(s) in the  
newsletter.**

**Your advertisement/announcement:  
(Please write a separate note.)**

**Send donation to  
ECCC, P.O. Box 151268  
San Diego, CA 92175-1268**

### **Local Area Meetings & Committee Groups**

**ECCC Meeting** - Third Thursday at 7:00 pm, Parish Hall, Blessed Sacrament Church, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito Drive

**ECCC Board Meeting** - First Thursday at 7:00 pm, Library, Blessed Sacrament School, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito Drive

**Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee** - Second Tuesday 7:00 pm, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 2725 55th St.

**College Area Community Council** - Second Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

**College Area Project Review Committee** - First Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library - Corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

**Crossroads Project Area Committee (PAC)** - Fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. College Avenue Baptist Church, 3rd floor, Administration Bldg, 4747 College Ave.